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EXAMINER

STEELMAN, MARY J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2191

DATE MAILED: 04/04/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/976,285

Applicant(s)

LOUZOUN ET AL.

Examiner

Mary J. Steelman

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 January 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 11-19 and 21-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1-8, 11-19 and 21-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to Remarks and Amendments received 13 January 2006. Per Applicant's request, claims 1, 11, 19, 26, and 29. Claims 9, 10, and 20 are cancelled. Claims 1-8, 11-19, and 21-30 are pending.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-30 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1, 3-8, 10, 11, 26, and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 5,003,591 to Kauffman et al., in view of US Patent 6,539,438 B1 to Ledzius et al.

Per claim 1:

A method comprising:

Kauffman disclosed:

Col. 13, line 33, "...method..."

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-managing downloading of at least two firmware functions, which are accessible
by more than one driver, with one processor;

Kauffman disclosed:

Col. 2, lines 46-53, "The converter includes means for receiving firmware downloaded over a cable television network...", col. 13, lines 42-45, "A multiplicity of firmware packages (at least two firmware functions) may be carried on a single system, with different terminals (accessible by more than one driver) in the system accepting and executing different packages as specified by the system headend." As an example, see col. 3, lines 29-35, where Kauffman discloses receipt of transmitted firmware (download) in a plurality of segments (at least two firmware functions). At col. 3, lines 11-24, Kauffman provides examples of devices that may implement the firmware functions. It is inherent that such implementation includes drivers. By Applicant's own admission, a driver is a computer program or software module that enables another software module or program, typically, an operating system to interact with a hardware device. Kauffman disclosed interfacing between a processor (operating system / converter) and such hardware devices (col. 3, lines 11-24) as a keyboard, an LED display, an on-screen display, a control function for a video recorder (firmware functions in converter are accessible by keyboard, inherently through a driver), all of which inherently will implement a 'driver' (more than one driver) for purposes of interaction.

Kauffman failed to disclose:

-verifying for said at least one of said drivers if said firmware has been downloaded by another function,

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However, Ledzius disclosed verifying at col. 16, lines 40-42. "At step 90, QQT software driver 10 checks if the requested configuration files and hardware objects (firmware already downloaded?) are already available for use in the system." See FIG. 5 and related text at col. 16, lines 30-col. 17, line 14.

Kauffman failed to disclose:

-wherein verifying comprises checking at least one of a register and a bit accessible by the at least two functions to check if the firmware has been downloaded by another function.

However, Ledzius disclosed checking registers and bits, by at least two functions, to determine if the configuration (firmware) has been downloaded by another function. See FIG3A – 3I, system Configuration Registers. Note FIG. 3F, bit 3, "When cleared, the Page 0 SRAM can be interrogated to find out specific configuration file header information that may be used by other applications (accessible by at least two functions). This bit is set by the application which configured the Qard and can only be cleared by the CBGN (configuration Begin) bit of this register." Note FIG. 3G, bit 7, "A Qard may contain up to 16 separate hardware objects, each of which may be accessed by setting to the corresponding object page using the least significant 4 bits of this register." FIG. 3I, bit 4, "This bit indicates that a successful check to enable the configuration file operation as defined by the files vendor has taken place." FIG. 3I, bit 3, "This bit indicates that a successful authorization to enable flash writing has taken place (firmware downloaded) when set." The configuration file downloads may be checked / accessed by at least two functions. See Col. 8, lines 35-39, "If the configuration file used by #1 application software

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program 18 to request hardware objects A and B also contains additional hardware objects not used by #1 application software program 18, they are available for used by other application programs (shared by at least two functions).” Col. 11, lines 55-67, “each configuration file that a given application may invoke to program FPGA 32 contains information about each of the individual hardware objects implemented by that configuration file in a header that QQT software driver 10 can access. For ‘shared’ type configuration files, which will be indicated in the QQT configuration option register...This header information...provides...the capability to allow applications other than the application that spawned the active configuration to share information...”

Therefore, it would have been obvious, to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to modify Kauffman’s invention, which (Kauffman: Col. 2, lines 25-29) enables downloading firmware to allow modification of functions by the system operator, by including features that Ledzius disclosed because Ledzius recognized the need (col. 3, line 60) for managing the allocation of reconfigurable computing resources and sharing for application software programs. Both inventions reference updates, Ledzius merely provides more details that are required to enable replacement of code, sharing memories, and (col. 4, line 60) allocating intelligently as the need arises.

Per claim 3:

-said managing comprises downloading at least two said firmware functions with a single download.

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Kauffman: Col. 2, lines 44-53, "...converter with remotely modifiable functionality is provided...means for receiving firmware downloaded...to provide one or more converter functions dictated by the firmware...", col. 6, line 66-col. 7, line 5, "...a plurality of different firmware packages are broadcast on the secondary channel, each package providing different converter functions or combinations of functions..."

Per claim 4:

said managing comprises managing downloading of firmware common to at least two of said drivers.

Kauffman: Col. 3, lines 18-25, "...firmware can implement a communication protocol for the converter, a descrambling technique (inherently requires a driver)...an on-screen display (inherently requires a driver)..."

Per claim 5:

-wherein said managing comprises managing downloading of firmware by more than one access operation of the same driver.

Kauffman: Col. 3, lines 41-45, "Means are provided for transmitting addressable converter data on a first data channel...on a second channel...", col. 4, line 17-21, "...remotely modifiable user terminal is provided which comprises means for receiving a plurality of...transmitted firmware segments..."

Per claim 6:

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-for at least one of said drivers, implementing a functionality common to another of said drivers.

Kauffman: Col. 3, lines 11-24, "The downloaded firmware received and stored by the converter can implement a functional layout on a keyboard associated with the converter..."

Per claim 7:

-for at least one of said drivers, implementing a different functionality than another of said drivers.

Kauffman: Col. 5, line 66 -col. 6, line 7, "...different firmware packages downloaded by headend to converter may provide different converter functions..."

Per claim 8:

-initializing at least one of said drivers with information to determine a desired firmware sufficient to implement a desired functionality.

Kauffman: Col. 7, lines 29-41, "...assign (determine a desired firmware sufficient to implement a desired functionality) a new firmware package to a particular converter, addressable controller is commanded to transmit instructions to the converter. The instructions are received..."

Per claim 11:

Kauffman failed to disclose:

-if said firmware has not been downloaded by another function then downloading said firmware for said at least one of said drivers.

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However Ledzius disclosed (col. 16, lines 40-42, “At step 90, QQT software driver 10 checks if the requested configuration files and hardware objects are already available for use in the system (if said firmware has not been downloaded by another function).” Col. 16, lines 48-61, “If at step 90 the requested configuration files and hardware objects are not available, then at step QQT software driver 10 looks for configuration files that contain the hardware objects that are not presently available in the system....If QQT software driver 10 is unable to locate the requested information (configuration files and/or hardware objects, then at step 98 an error message is displayed...If the requested configuration and hardware objects are found...the configuration file is downloaded...” Also see FIG. 5

Therefore, it would have been obvious, to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to modify Kauffman’s invention, which (Kauffman: Col. 2, lines 25-29) enables downloading firmware to allow modification of functions by the system operator, by including features that Ledzius disclosed because Ledzius recognized the need (col. 3, line 60) for managing the allocation of reconfigurable computing resources and sharing for application software programs. Both inventions reference updates, Ledzius merely provides more details that are required to enable replacement of code, sharing memories, and (col. 4, line 60) allocating intelligently as the need arises.

Per claim 26:

A system comprising:

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- a multi-function device that comprises at least two firmware functions that are accessibly by more than one driver;
- a processor adapted to manage downloading of said at least two firmware functions...
- and to verify for said at least one of said drivers if said firmware has been downloaded by another function;
- a memory in communication with said processor.

(See limitations addressed in claim 1 above.)

Per claim 28:

- said processor is adapted to download at least two said firmware functions with a single download.

(See limitations addressed in claim 3 above.)

5. Claims 2, 19, 21-25, 27, and 29-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 5,003,591 to Kauffman et al., in view of US Patent 6,615,405 B1 to Ledzius et al., and further in view of US Patent 5,539,896 to Lisle.

Per claim 2:

- said managing comprises reducing a risk or at least one of said drivers overwriting firmware that has been downloaded and is being used by another of said drivers.

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Kauffman suggested verification, (col. 2, lines 49-50), "Means are provided for verifying the integrity of the firmware...", col. 2, line 53-59, "...means for storing default operation software...", col. 4, lines 36-49, "...The verifying means can operate by testing a checksum..." Kauffman / Ledzius failed to explicitly refer to reducing the risk of overwriting.

However, Lisle disclosed a technique using dual buffers and pointers to avoid overwriting code. Col. 9, lines 38-40, describe "both the host CPU and DSP may be simultaneously executing code and accessing common shared memory..." Col. 10, lines 20-23, "this current pointer...is serving the function of informing the host CPU not to write code into the left buffer since the DSP is still executing this code..." Thus, Lisle provides a technique to reduce the risk of a driver overwriting code that is being executed by another driver (shared memory).

Therefore, it would have been obvious, to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to further modify the Kauffman / Ledzius combination using the Lisle invention because Lisle recognized that (Lisle: col. 1, lines 40-41) "it may be desirable to reconfigure the system in real time", (Lisle: col. 2, lines 17-19) "it is necessary to periodically load other code from the host into this shared memory for execution by the DSPP, (Lisle: col. 2, lines 24-26), "so as to avoid the host attempting to update the buffer of such a shared memory while code in the buffer was being executed by the DSP. Updating code in a shared memory, while ensuring that code being executed by another driver is not overwritten, allows a system to meet increased demands, thereby providing a better, longer lasting system to the user.

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Per claim 19:

- a multi-function device that comprises at least two firmware functions which are accessible by more than one driver;
- a processor adapted to manage downloading of said at least two firmware functions.
- to reduce a risk of at least one of said drivers overwriting firmware that has been downloaded and is being used by another of said drivers, wherein the processor is to check at least one of a register and a bit accessible by the at least two functions to check if the firmware has been downloaded by another function.

(Limitations of claim 19 have been addressed in claims 1 and 2 above.)

Per claim 21:

- processor is adapted to download at least two said firmware functions with a single download.
- (See limitations addressed in claim 3 above.)

Therefore, it would have been obvious, to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to further modify the Kauffman / Ledzius combination using the Lisle invention because Lisle recognized that (Lisle: col. 1, lines 40-41) "it may be desirable to reconfigure the system in real time", (Lisle: col. 2, lines 17-19) "it is necessary to periodically load other code from the host into this shared memory for execution by the DSPP, (Lisle: col. 2, lines 24-26), "so as to avoid the host attempting to update the buffer of such a shared memory while code in the buffer was being executed by the DSP. Therefore updating code (download firmware) in a shared memory, while ensuring that code being executed by another driver is not overwritten,

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allows a system to meet increased demands, thereby providing a better, longer lasting system to the user.

Per claim 22:

-processor is adapted to manage downloading of firmware common to at least two of said drivers.

(See limitations addressed in claim 4 above.)

Per claim 23:

-at least one of said drivers is adapted to implement a functionality common to another of said drivers.

(See limitations addressed in claim 6 above.)

Per claim 24:

-at least one of said drivers is adapted to implement a different functionality than another of said drivers.

(See limitations addressed in claim 7 above.)

Per claim 25:

-at least one of said drivers is initialized with information to determine a desired firmware sufficient to implement a desired functionality.

(See limitations addressed in claim 8 above.)

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Per claim 27:

-said processor is adapted to reduce a risk of at least one of said drivers overwriting firmware that has been downloaded and is being used by another of said drivers.

(See limitations addressed in claim 2 above.)

Therefore, it would have been obvious, to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to further modify the Kauffman / Ledzius combination using the Lisle invention because Lisle recognized that (Lisle: col. 1, lines 40-41) “it may be desirable to reconfigure the system in real time”, (Lisle: col. 2, lines 17-19) “it is necessary to periodically load other code from the host into this shared memory for execution by the DSPP, (Lisle: col. 2, lines 24-26), “so as to avoid the host attempting to update the buffer of such a shared memory while code in the buffer was being executed (reduce risk) by the DSP. Therefore updating code (download firmware) in a shared memory, while ensuring that code being executed by another driver is not overwritten, allows a system to meet increased demands, thereby providing a better, longer lasting system to the user.

Per claim 29:

A method comprising:

-managing downloading of at least two firmware functions, which are accessible by more than one driver, with one processor;

(See rejection of limitation in claim 1 above.)

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-and reducing a risk of at least one of said drivers overwriting firmware that has been downloaded and is being used by another of said drivers, wherein reducing a risk comprises checking at least one of a register and a bit accessible by the at least two functions to check if the firmware has been downloaded by another function.

(See rejection of limitations in claims 1 & 2 above.)

Therefore, it would have been obvious, to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to further modify the Kauffman / Ledzius combination using the Lisle invention because Lisle recognized that (Lisle: col. 1, lines 40-41) “it may be desirable to reconfigure the system in real time”, (Lisle: col. 2, lines 17-19) “it is necessary to periodically load other code from the host into this shared memory for execution by the DSPP, (Lisle: col. 2, lines 24-26), “so as to avoid the host attempting to update the buffer of such a shared memory while code in the buffer was being executed (reduce risk) by the DSP. Therefore updating code (download firmware) in a shared memory, while ensuring that code being executed by another driver is not overwritten, allows a system to meet increased demands, thereby providing a better, longer lasting system to the user.

Per claim 30:

-verifying for a driver if said firmware has been downloaded by another function.

(See limitation addressed in claim 1 above.)

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6. Claims 12-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 5,003,591 to Kauffman et al., in view of US Patent 6,615,405 B1 to Ledzius et al., and further in view of US Patent Application Publication 2002/0166061 A1 to Falik et al.

Per claim 12:

Kauffman / Ledzius failed to disclose:

-locking access to said firmware by drivers other than said at least one of said drivers.

However Falik disclosed: [0114] Shared Memory Host Semaphore Resister is used to control reads / writes.

Therefore, it would have been obvious, to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to modify the Kauffman / Ledzius invention regarding functionally modifiable firmware, to include specific details as provided by Falik regarding locking access to firmware (access controls through semaphore locks), because both inventions reference firmware updates, Falik merely provides more details that are required to ensure correct replacement of code when enabling [0003] updates, bug fixes, and storage of critical changing parameters” via an enabling reprogram.

Per claim 13:

Kauffman / Ledzius failed to disclose:

-said locking access comprises memory spin locking.

However Falik disclosed: [0114] Shared Memory Host Semaphore Resister is used to control reads / writes.

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Therefore, it would have been obvious, to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to modify the Kauffman / Ledzius invention regarding functionally modifiable firmware, to include specific details as provided by Falik regarding locking access / spin locking (access controls through semaphore locks), because both inventions reference firmware updates, Falik merely provides more details that are required to ensure correct replacement of code when enabling [0003] updates, bug fixes, and storage of critical changing parameters” via an enabling reprogram.

Per claim 14:

Kauffman / Ledzius failed to disclose:

-said locking access comprises PCI (peripheral component interface) bus locking on a memory location of said at least one of said drivers.

However Falik disclosed: [0114] Shared Memory Host Semaphore Resister is used to control reads / writes.

Therefore, it would have been obvious, to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to modify the Kauffman / Ledzius invention regarding functionally modifiable firmware, to include specific details as provided by Falik regarding locking access, because both inventions reference firmware updates, Falik merely provides more details that are required to ensure correct replacement of code when enabling [0003] updates, bug fixes, and storage of critical changing parameters” via an enabling reprogram.

Per claim 15:

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Kauffman / Ledzius failed to disclose:

-locking access comprises locking a device memory register.

However Falik disclosed: [0114] Shared Memory Host Semaphore Resister is used to control reads / writes.

Therefore, it would have been obvious, to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to modify the Kauffman / Ledzius invention regarding functionally modifiable firmware, to include specific details as provided by Falik regarding locking in a device memory register, because both inventions reference firmware updates, Falik merely provides more details that are required to ensure correct replacement of code when enabling [0003] updates, bug fixes, and storage of critical changing parameters” via an enabling reprogram.

Per claim 16:

Kauffman / Ledzius failed to disclose:

-setting a register that said downloading said firmware is finished.

However Falik disclosed: FIG. 9 & [0120], “...When Host completes transmission of the ‘Update Data’..., [0122], “...If a ‘valid’ indication is received...the procedure proceeds...where the update is actually performed...when the update is complete...”

Therefore, it would have been obvious, to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to modify the Kauffman / Ledzius invention regarding functionally modifiable firmware, to include specific details as provided by Falik regarding registers, and bit flags to indicate completion, because both inventions reference firmware updates, Falik merely provides

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more details that are required to ensure correct replacement of code when enabling [0003] updates, bug fixes, and storage of critical changing parameters” via an enabling reprogram.

Per claim 17:

Kauffman / Ledzius failed to disclose:

- implementing said firmware.

However Falik disclosed: [0122], “...Performing a soft reset...that re-initializes both EC and Host completes the operation.”

Therefore, it would have been obvious, to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to modify the Kauffman / Ledzius invention regarding functionally modifiable firmware, to include specific details as provided by Falik regarding updating and implementing firmware after a verification process, because both inventions reference firmware updates, Falik merely provides more details that are required to ensure correct replacement of code when enabling [0003] updates, bug fixes, and storage of critical changing parameters” via an enabling reprogram.

Per claim 18:

Kauffman / Ledzius failed to disclose:

- permitting access to said firmware by drivers other than said at least one of said drivers.

However Falik disclosed: FIG. 8, #837, Normal Operation, After update is successfully validated access is granted to drivers for normal processing after a reset or re-boot operation.

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Therefore, it would have been obvious, to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to modify the Kauffman / Ledzius invention regarding functionally modifiable firmware, to include specific details as provided by Falik regarding access controls to drivers when downloading a firmware update, because both inventions reference firmware updates, Falik merely provides more details that are required to ensure correct replacement of code when enabling [0003] updates, bug fixes, and storage of critical changing parameters” via an enabling reprogram. After completion of a satisfactory update, the program may follow normal processing. Multiple drivers may access shared memory.

Conclusion

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

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8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mary Steelman, whose telephone number is (571) 272-3704. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Thursday, from 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wei Zhen can be reached at (571) 272-3708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the TC 2100 Group receptionist: 571-272-2100.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Mary Steelman



03/29/2006



WEI ZHEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER